

APPROVED BY
Kara Vlach-Lasher
CHAIR



Lakewood Animal Safety & Welfare Advisory Board
February 20, 2019 Meeting
Location: Lakewood City Hall

Present: Board Members: Kara Vlach-Lasher, Erin Shaughnessy, Mary Taubman,
Juleen Russell, Phyllis Dykes, Nancy Binder, Emily Christescu
Councilperson Tristan Rader, ACO Jack Crawford

Not Present: Nancy McDonnell

Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board Committee Meeting

Minutes Wednesday February 20, 2019

- I. Welcome and roll call conducted by Vlach-Lasher at 6:03 pm. 7 voting members present.
 - a. Welcome new board member Emily Christescu, who was appointed by Councilperson John Litten.
 - b. Bio of board member Mary Taubman.
- II. Approval of January Meeting Minutes - Board
 - a. Unanimous verbal vote in favor of the motion to waive formal reading of the minutes. No discussion on minutes as presented. Motion passes to approve the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

- III. Report: Lakewood Animal Control Report – ACO Crawford
 - a. Coyotes: 1 caught by private trapper at Marine Towers.
 - b. 24 animals taken into the shelter year to date.
 - c. 3 dog bites in December resulting in 3 potential nuisance dogs. 1 was challenged in January and some of the restrictions were reduced as the incident was not as bad as first reported. Another incident will result in a potential nuisance classification with no appeal permitted.
 - d. 0 dangerous dogs classifications currently in Lakewood.
 - e. Retractable leash law awareness/compliance.
 - i. ACOs are still passing out flyers for retractable leashes; written warnings will be issued beginning at the end of February.
 - ii. Vlach-Lasher asks if a sign at the dog park would be helpful. ACO Crawford believes most dog park visitors are from outside of the City.

- iii. Vlach-Lasher inquires about signs at parks in Lakewood; ACO Crawford agrees that could be helpful. We will discuss content for the signs in the future, as dogs are now allowed in all parks.

IV. Lakewood.Spay/Neuter Committee Update – Vlach-Lasher

- a. Vlach-Lasher presents new proposal to the City for the Spay-Neuter program, updated to allow all income levels to apply for a discounted procedure.
- b. Motion is made to approve the updated proposal be sent to Council and the Mayor; motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS

V. 2019 Committees / Working Group Plans

- a. Chairperson Vlach-Lasher met with the Shannon Strachan to discuss the Mayor's office view of the role of LASWAB and relayed the highlights of that meeting.
- b. Committee plans are presented to the board by leaders of each group. A printed copy of the goal and strategies, objectives and timelines for plans are given to Vlach-Lasher to summarize for communication to council and the Mayor.
- c. **Wildlife Education & Outreach Committee – Board Member Shaughnessy**
 - i. Shaughnessy proposes that we advise the City to produce/publish media regarding wildlife in the community and distribute it online to reach the greatest number of residents. Motion is made to approve this plan; motion passes.
- d. **Dog Ordinance Committee – Chairperson Vlach-Lasher**
 - i. Vlach-Lasher proposes a plan with a goal of advising on what is expected of all dog owners in our community to be in compliance with the new dog legislation for the safety and welfare of all. Motion is made to approve this plan; motion passes.
- e. **Community Events Committee – Board Member McDonnell (not present)**
 - i. Group discussion and edit of the partial plan by McDonnell. Events and objectives are agreed upon by the board. Motion is made to approve this plan; motion passes.
- f. **Dog Bite Prevention – Board Member Taubman**
 - i. Taubman proposes educating children on dog behavior by participating in Safety Town (ACOs did this last year), having an assembly in the schools and/or providing printed materials, such as coloring books, at the library or at community events such as the 4th of July parade. The group proposes that the City may consider professional presenters and acquire materials to reach and educate kids on dog safety.
- g. **Communication Committee – Board Member Russell**
 - i. Russell proposes a plan to increase awareness of animal safety issues which includes creating a content calendar to coordinate social media posts with the

City and the potential creation of an updated brochure for responsible pet ownership.

FAQs – Motion is made to defer this discussion to next meeting due to time constraints. Motion passes.

VI. Social Media Posts

- a. Wildlife Education: Motion is made to approve the post regarding coyote pupping season; motion passes.**
- b. Dog Ordinance: Shaughnessy presents a post addressing the retractable leash ban. Board members review. Motion is made to approve the leash post; motion passes.**
- c. Vlach-Lasher will send posts to Melissa Garrett for March posting.**

No public comment.

Motion is made to adjourn; motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.